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FORMBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1960

FORMBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

1960.

Chairman - Mr. Councillor F.V. Denton, O.B.E.,
T.D., J.P.

Vice-Chairman - Councillor Mrs. P.H. Beeston, B.A., J.P.

Chairman of Health and Highways Committee -

Mr. Councillor J.R. Rimmer, M.B.E., J.P.

Mr. Councillor D.A. Dewar.
Mr. Councillor E. Duke.
Mr. Councillor J.R.O. Folkard.
Mr. Councillor C.W.A. Kenny.
Mr. Councillor G. Kershaw, J.P.
Councillor Mrs. M.A. Neep.
Mr. Councillor E. Pearce.
Mr. Councillor S.J.E. Sloan, LL.B.
Mr. Councillor E. Storey, M.Sc.

Medical Officer of Health (Part Time) -

M.G. Garry, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.M.,
Council Offices,
Formby.

Telephone No. - Formby 720.

Public Health Inspector -

N. Benson, D.P.A. (L'pool).

FORMBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Formby.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting for your consideration my Annual Report for the year 1960. This is the fifty-fifth report in the series submitted since the Urban District was first constituted in 1905.

Since that date the population of the district has grown from approximately 5,900 to 11,420, which is the Registrar General's estimate for mid 1960.

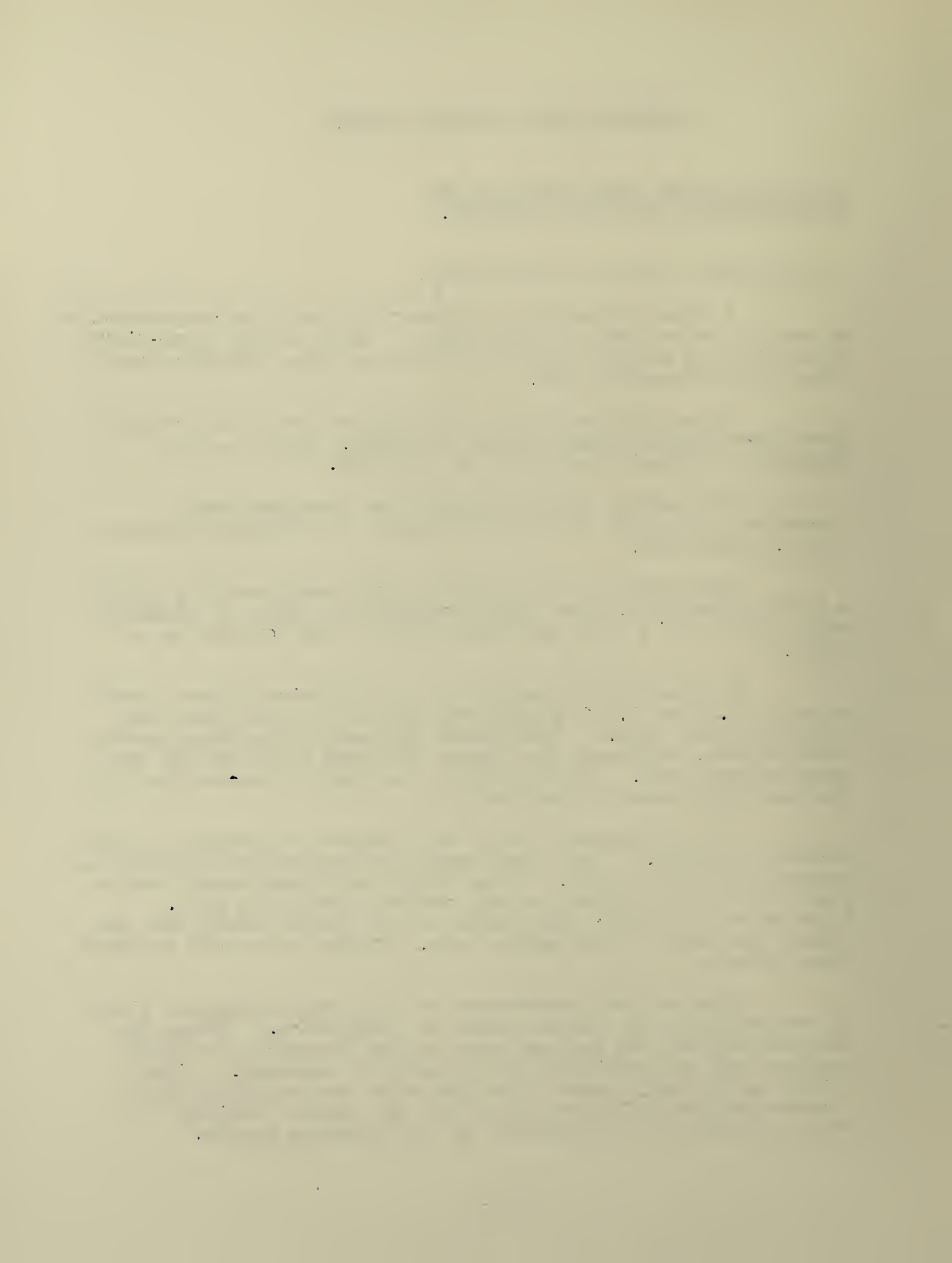
The health of the district has remained good throughout the year, and the incidence of infectious disease has been very low.

The number of live births registered was 186, giving a birth rate of 16.3 per 1,000 population, which is slightly below last year's rate and below that of the country as a whole.

A total of 123 deaths for the district gives a death rate of 10.8 per 1,000 population and is 0.7 less than the national death rate. There were no deaths from respiratory tuberculosis, although the number of cases notified was the same as last year. Heart disease was again responsible for the greatest number of deaths.

As a residential area the standard of housing in the district is good. The small number of sub-standard houses is gradually being reduced. Nine houses were demolished, and a record total of 181 new houses erected during the year. Improvements are also being made to the older houses and ten houses had baths, wash basins, etc., fitted under the Standard Grant Scheme.

Work on the improvement to the sewage disposal plant is now reaching the final stages of completion. Plans for the drainage of the eastern part of the district have been prepared and are awaiting the Ministry's approval. This brings appreciably nearer the time when the remaining pail closets can be abolished and houses at present drained to septic tanks can be connected to the sewerage system.



Continued vigilance is required in the preparation, storage and sale of foods to reduce the incidence of food poisoning. All concerned are being urged towards higher standards of hygienic practice, both in the shops and homes alike.

Thanks are due to the Chairman of the Council, to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Highways Committee for their support and encouragement and to members of the Staff for their continued assistance and co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

M.G. GARRY,

Medical Officer of Health.

Area of District -

L.W. Mark - 7,308 acres.

H.W. Mark - 5,613 acres.

Population (Registrar General's Estimate, mid 1960) - 11,420.

Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1960 - 3,443.

Rateable Value - £160,044.

Sum represented by a penny rate - £649.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.

Number	186
Rate per 1,000 population	16.3
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	2.15

Still Births.

Number	3
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	15.9
Total live and still births	189
Infant deaths (under 1 year)	2

Infant Mortality Rates.

Total infant deaths per 1,000 live births	10.8
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	10.9
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil.
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births).	10.8
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week, per 1,000 total live births).	5.4

Perinatal Mortality Rate.

(Still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births).	21.2
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Maternal Mortality (including abortion).

Number of deaths	Nil.
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Nil.

Total deaths, all causes	123
Death rate (per 1,000 population)	10.8
Number of deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis	Nil.
Death rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis, per 1,000 population	Nil.

Comparability factors,
Births 1.10. Deaths 1.10.

Calculated on these factors the adjusted death rate (per 1,000 population) is	11.8
adjusted birth rate (per 1,000 population) is	17.9

Number of deaths from Cancer (all forms)	16
Death rate from Cancer per 1,000 population	1.40

BIRTHS 1945 - 1960.

Year	Popula- tion	BIRTHS			BIRTH RATE	
		Male	Female	Total	Formby	England and Wales
					Rate per 1,000 population.	
1945	8,421	61	62	123	14.5	16.1
1946	8,864	102	74	176	19.8	19.1
1947	8,900	66	68	134	15.0	20.5
1948	9,576	70	65	135	14.0	17.9
1949	9,714	51	62	113	11.6	16.7
1950	10,386	61	53	114	11.0	15.8
1951	10,429	60	70	130	12.3	15.5
1952	10,520	68	63	131	12.5	15.3
1953	10,100	81	64	145	14.4	15.5
1954	9,980	76	59	135	13.5	15.2
1955	11,170	75	67	142	12.7	15.0
1956	10,340	74	72	146	14.1	15.8
1957	10,470	91	72	163	15.6	16.1
1958	10,790	77	86	163	15.1	16.4
1959	10,770	93	85	178	16.5	16.5
1960	11,420	108	78	186	16.3	17.1

DEATHS 1945 - 1960.

Year	Popula- tion	DEATHS			DEATH RATE	
		Male	Female	Total	Formby	England and Wales
					Rate per 1,000 population	
1945	8,421	73	57	130	15.4	11.4
1946	8,864	65	76	141	15.9	11.5
1947	8,900	52	51	103	11.5	12.6
1948	9,576	51	50	101	10.5	10.8
1949	9,714	65	65	130	13.4	11.7
1950	10,386	56	77	133	12.8	11.6
1951	10,429	69	81	150	14.2	12.5
1952	10,520	59	57	116	11.0	11.3
1953	10,100	50	58	108	10.7	11.4
1954	9,980	55	59	114	11.4	11.3
1955	11,170	49	65	114	10.2	11.7
1956	10,340	65	56	121	11.7	11.7
1957	10,470	49	55	104	9.9	11.5
1958	10,790	63	72	135	12.5	11.7
1959	10,770	55	63	118	11.0	11.6
1960	11,420	63	60	123	10.8	11.5

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE FORMBY URBAN DISTRICT
DURING 1960.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	-	-	-
2. Other forms of tuberculosis	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	1	-	1
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Cancer of the stomach	1	1	2
11. Cancer of the lungs	3	-	3
12. Cancer of the breast	-	1	1
13. Cancer of the uterus	-	-	-
14. Cancer of other sites	6	4	10
15. Leukaemia	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of the nervous system	11	16	27
18. Coronary disease, angina	17	13	30
19. Hypertension with heart disease	-	-	-
20. Other heart disease	9	8	17
21. Other circulatory disease	2	5	7
22. Influenza	-	1	1
23. Pneumonia	2	1	3
24. Bronchitis	-	-	-
25. Other respiratory diseases	2	1	3
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1
28. Nephritis	1	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	7	11
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
34. All other accidents	1	1	2
35. Suicide	-	-	-
36. Homicide	-	-	-
	63	60	123

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
IN THE AREA.

Hospitals.

There are no hospitals within the urban district. The Liverpool Regional Hospital Board is responsible for the hospital service within Health Division No. 7, of which Formby forms part. Patients are moved to any of the hospitals in the area, i.e. Liverpool, Southport or Ormskirk.

Infectious Disease.

The incidence of notifiable infectious disease, in age groups, is shown in tabulated form on page 10. Cases of infectious disease, when requiring hospital treatment, are admitted to the City Hospital, Fazackerley, or to New Hall Hospital, Scarisbrick.

Tuberculosis.

The diagnosis and treatment of Tuberculosis is undertaken by the Regional Hospital Board. The Local Health Authorities, however, have important duties in relation to prevention, supervision of contacts and after care.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

These services are provided by the Lancashire County Council and are held at "Roselands," Cross Green, Formby, on the following days and times :-

Minor Ailments Clinic:	Every Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
Infant Welfare Clinic:	Every Tuesday, 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Diphtheria and Poliomyelitis Immunisation Clinics:	Every first Tuesday in the month, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Immunisation and Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

The following details have been given by the Lancashire County Council :-

Diphtheria immunisation during 1960 -

At Formby Clinic:	127 Children completed treatment.
Clinic and Schools:	454 Children received "booster" dose.
By General Practitioners:	183 Children completed treatment. 57 Children received a "booster" dose.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination -

Under 15 years of age - received two injections	126
Over 15 years of age - received two injections	55
Under 15 years of age - received "booster" injections	234
Over 15 years of age - received "booster" injections	98

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Disease.

During the year 145 cases of infectious disease were notified; these are shown by the tables below :-

Notifiable Diseases.	Total Cases.	Age Periods - Years									Deaths
		Under 1	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65 & Over	
Scarlet Fever	5				5						
Whooping Cough	23	1	4	10	8						
Measles	92		4	23	62	3					
Dysentery	1							1			
Acute Pneumonia	19				6		3		3	7	
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	5				2		2			1	
	145	1	8	33	83	3	5	1	3	8	Nil.

Midwifery Service.

The Lancashire County Council ensure that every mother may have the advice and attention of a skilled midwife when she is confined at home, and the services of two midwives are available.

Home Nursing Service.

The services of a district nurse can be arranged to attend to the sick in their own homes. This service is made available by a note from the family doctor or hospital.

Ambulance Service.

These facilities are provided by the Lancashire County Council, and stations within the Division are at Crosby, Maghull

and Burscough. The Formby Ambulance Station ceased to function from Monday, the 4th January, 1960. The Station is being retained, however, for the time being pending a decision by the County Council on the provision of an ambulance service for this area.

A system of radio control is now in operation so that a vehicle can be redirected from one case to another without returning to its Station.

The following details have been kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer, of cases arising in the Formby Urban District :-

Emergency Cases.	Ambulance Station at which vehicle based.			
	Burscough	Crosby	Maghull	Total
Road Accidents	-	14	5	19
Public Place Accidents	-	16	1	17
Home Accidents	1	18	5	24
Works Accidents	-	8	-	8
Maternity	-	64	4	68
Illness	2	67	5	74
Vehicle Not Required	-	10	1	11
Total	3	197	21	* 221

* In addition thirteen cases were dealt with by Southport Corporation Ambulance.

NON-URGENT CASES.

Burscough	Crosby	Formby	Maghull	Total
3	1,743	* 16	9	1,771
* Cases dealt with up to 3rd January, 1960.				

Home Help Service.

This service is provided by the County Council for helping with household duties in cases of confinement, sickness, infirmity or other difficulties.

Nursing Equipment.

Persons being nursed at home and who are in need of nursing equipment may obtain this on loan, by application to the Divisional Health Office, the District Nurse or Medical Practitioner attending the case.

Care of the Aged.

Accommodation for the aged in need of care and attention is provided by the Lancashire County Council either in their own Institutions or in suitable voluntary homes. Maryland Home for the Elderly, which is situated within the district is a voluntary Home, having accommodation for about twenty-two persons.

"Hurstwood," a large detached house which was purchased by the Formby Urban District Council and converted into thirteen self-contained flats for elderly people has now been in operation for over a year, with considerable success. The premises are supervised by a resident housemother and administered by a Committee formed by the Council with members co-opted from the Formby Council of Social Welfare.

Voluntary Welfare Organisations.

Important and valuable work is still being carried out by voluntary organisations, and many gaps are filled by these enthusiastic unpaid workers.

The Formby Council of Social Welfare was formed to act as a central co-ordinating body for all the voluntary social and welfare organisations in the district. Its aims are to promote the welfare of the community and to render advice and assistance to all persons in difficulty, need, poverty or distress, regardless of age, sex or religious belief. About twenty-eight local organisations are represented on this body.

Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological specimens and samples of food or water for examination are sent to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Liverpool. The analysis of rainwater collected in the atmospheric deposit gauge is done by the County Analyst at Preston.

Disinfection.

The disinfection of bedding, clothing, etc., is carried out after infectious disease or on special request.

Articles are removed to the Sparkhall Disinfector in the Council Depot. The method of disinfection used in this apparatus is by the vapourisation of a fluid having a high Rideal-Walker co-efficient. After a period the chamber is cleared of the gas by means of an extractor fan.

Twenty-two articles of bedding, clothing and books were treated. Rooms, when required, are disinfected by formaldehyde. This is produced by the addition of potassium permanganate crystals to a 40 per cent solution of formalin. In the ensuing reaction sufficient heat is generated to cause violent boiling with the evaporation of the bulk of the solution. The room is left sealed for at least three hours.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

Water Supply - Piped water is supplied to the district by the West Lancashire Water Board (previously known as the Southport & District Water Board), and continues to be satisfactory, both in quality and quantity. The sources of supply comprise pumping stations with deep wells, headings and boreholes sunk in the new red sandstone formation in the Bickerstaffe and Aughton area.

Although the water supply to Formby is not metered, it can be assumed that the consumption per head is about the same as the average for the whole of the Board's area. This is calculated to be a daily domestic consumption per head of 32.93 gallons and a daily total consumption of 43 gallons per head. The total amount of water used in the urban district during the year is estimated at 179 million gallons. The mains supplying Formby vary in size from 3" to 14" internal diameter. The water, although hard in character, is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity. Eight samples of water were taken in the district and submitted for bacteriological examination. All were reported as "Satisfactory."

Other Sources of Water Supply.

Fifteen premises depend upon private wells for their water supply and two cottages near the eastern boundary of the district are supplied with water in containers by the landlord. Twenty samples were obtained from these sources and submitted for bacteriological examination. Three were not entirely satisfactory and the necessary precautions were taken in regard to these supplies.

ANALYST'S REPORT ON A SAMPLE OF MAINS WATER
TAKEN IN THE DISTRICT.

Chemical Results in Parts per Million.

Appearance - Bright with very few particles.

Turbidity - Less than 3.

Colour - Nil.

Odour - Nil.

pH - 7.1

Free Carbon Dioxide - 34.

Electric Conductivity - 590.

Total Solids, dried at 180° C - 395.

Chlorine as Chlorides - 28.

Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate - 235.

Hardness: Total - 310. Carbonate - 235. Non-Carbonate - 75.

Nitrate Nitrogen - 0.8 Nitrite Nitrogen - Absent.

Ammoniacal Nitrogen - 0.000 Oxygen absorbed - 0.30

Albuminoid Nitrogen - 0.000 Residual Chlorine - Absent.

Metals - Iron 0.04. Manganese 0.04 Zinc, copper and lead -
Absent.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

1 day at 37°C. 2 days at 37°C. 3 days at
20° C.

Number of Colonies developing on Agar	0 per ml.	0 per ml.	1 per ml.
	<u>Present in</u>	<u>Absent from</u>	<u>Probable No.</u>
Presumptive Coli- aerogenes Reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bac. coli. (Type 1).	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals, apart

from negligible traces of iron and manganese. The water is very hard in character but not excessively so, contains no excess of mineral constituents and it is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity. These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

Swimming Baths.

There are no public swimming baths in the district, but there is one open air swimming bath attached to a large private school, which is used by a considerable number of boys during the season. Water for this bath, which has a capacity of 26,000 gallons, is obtained from the public mains and is maintained in a clean and satisfactory condition by a method of continuous circulation, filtration and chlorination.

Four samples of water taken from the baths during use, and submitted for bacteriological examination, showed the water to be of the same standard as a good drinking water.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal.

There is a separate system of drainage in this district. The foul sewers discharge by gravitation into settling tanks with an outfall into the River Mersey. Surface water from street gullies connects to surface water drains discharging into watercourses, where possible. Rainwater from house property is drained into soakaways situated in the gardens.

Work on the reconstruction of the Sewage Disposal Works is now nearing completion. This is estimated to cost about £128,000. The amended scheme now being constructed was prepared by Consulting Engineers and will give full treatment of the sewage before discharge by a new outfall into the River Alt. When the new Works are completed, sewage will pass through a screening chamber into a detritus tank where the heavy organic solids will settle. The sewage will then be lifted by means of electrically operated centrifugal pumps into four sedimentation tanks and three storm water tanks having a total capacity of 388,000 gallons. In the event of any failure of the electricity supply, it is arranged that one pump shall have as an alternative a stand-by diesel engine designed for automatic starting, which would come into use when required at any time during the day or night.

Sewage is retained in the tanks from six to eight hours, where the sludge will settle to be drawn off at intervals to the drying beds. The water from the tanks is

later discharged into one of the three filter beds, each measuring 120 ft. in diameter, and dosed by a rotating distributor. The effluent from the percolating filters is to be collected into a channel around the bed and discharged into humus tanks. Finally, it passes over a weir into a channel leading to the River Alt.

Plans have now been prepared by Consultants for the drainage of the unsewered area to the east of the district, and details of the scheme have been submitted to the Ministry for approval.

Cesspools and Septic Tanks.

The Council have no facilities for the emptying of cesspools and do not undertake this service.

Sanitary Accommodation.

Number of houses with pail closets	152
Number of houses with W.C's. draining to cesspools or septic tanks	376
Number of houses with W.C's. on main drainage	2,915

Replacement of pail closets, etc.

Number of premises where pail closets have been converted to water closets during 1960	8
Number of cesspools abolished and drainage connected to sewer	6

Testing of Drains.

The inspection and testing of all house drainage work is carried out by the Health Department.

Tests were made at one hundred and ninety-two premises.

Two smoke machines are in use and the drains are filled with smoke under light pressure, any leak being readily observed.

In addition to the machines provided by the Council, the larger building contractors have been encouraged to obtain their own machines, which remain on the site and are always available for tests. This not only saves time and transport costs but means that tests can be arranged at short notice, thus reducing the probability of damage by leaving new drainage work lying exposed in open trenches.

Although pitch impregnated fibre pipes are permitted to be used, all drainage has so far been carried out in salt glazed spigot and socket pipes to B.S.S. These are jointed by tarred gasking, tightly caulked, the remaining joint being filled with cement mortar. A rapid hardening additive is sometimes used in the cement to get a "quick set" in cases where ground water may be seeping into the trench.

Shops Act, 1950. Sec. 38.

The Administration of those parts of the Act enforceable by the Council, relating to sanitary accommodation, heating and ventilation has been carried out, 175 visits being made for the purpose. In ten cases minor infringements were noted and remedied by informal action.

Inspectorial duties assigned by the Lancashire County Council are also undertaken, relating to hours of employment of young persons, inspection of records and notices, means of lighting, washing facilities and seating accommodation for female assistants.

The provisions of the Act relating to hours of closing for shops are administered by the Lancashire County Council.

Factories Act, 1937.

There are sixty factories on the register to which Section 7 of the Act applies. This relates to the provision and maintenance of sufficient and suitable sanitary conveniences. Ninety-two visits were made and four notices served for contraventions.

Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 relate to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and drainage of floors and are only administered by the local authority where mechanical power is not used. These sections apply to seven premises in this district.

Rag, Flock and Other Filling Material Act, 1951.

This Act provides for the registration of premises where rag, flock or other filling material is used in upholstering or in the manufacture of bedding, toys, etc., and prescribes standards of cleanliness for the filling material. There are no premises at present registered in this district.

Caravan Sites - Public Health Act, 1936. Sec. 269.

There are two main holiday sites which were licenced for a total of 225 caravans, covering the period 1st March to 31st October. Both sites are well conducted, pleasantly situated near the shore and set amidst pine woods.

The new Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, which came into effect on the 29th August, conferred effective powers for controlling sites, introduced a new licencing system, and also Model Standards." These new Model Standards relating to sanitary conditions have not been rigidly applied but slightly modified in the light of past experience and existing site conditions. The provision of baths or showers is not considered necessary on either site under present conditions, but additional water closets, wash-basins, water standpipes and firepoints will be required.

On the two other small seasonal sites where there are a total of 16 caravans, licences have expired and are not likely to be renewed.

There are three other caravans used for residential purposes, the licences for which enure for the benefit of their respective occupiers only.

Refuse Removal and Disposal.

The removal of house refuse is carried out under the direction of the Surveyor. Two Shelvoke and Drewry Refuse vehicles are employed.

Dustbins and pail closets are emptied weekly.

The disposal of refuse is by tipping on low lying land at North Moss Lane.

Housing.

The district is essentially residential in character and the standard of housing is good. Continued expansion in development is evident, as shown by the following statistics :-

HOUSES AND FLATS ERECTED SINCE THE WAR.

Year	Local Authority	Government Department	Private Builders	Total
1945	-	-	2	2
1946	-	-	67	67
1947	16	-	8	24
1948	34	-	-	34
1949	13	7	-	20
1950	9	6	-	15
1951	-	-	2	2
1952	-	-	15	15
1953	30	5	48	83
1954	-	8	66	74
1955	5	25	76	106
1956	36	-	84	120
1957	54	-	91	145
1958	-	-	81	81
1959	-	-	149	149
1960	3	-	178	181
Total new dwellings				1,118

A small number of cottages two or three hundred years old are still occupied and although lacking many modern conveniences are remarkably well preserved. In some instances it is possible to arrange with the owners that when the premises are vacated by the present occupiers the cottages will be demolished.

In 1954 the Ministry of Housing and Local Government issued Circular No. 55/54, requiring local authorities to submit proposals to deal with sub-standard dwellings within

the period expiring December, 1960. The following tabulated list shows the progress made since that date. It is also anticipated that at least another fifteen sub-standard houses will be demolished within the next few years.

DEMOLITION OF UNFIT DWELLINGS.

Year	Number of houses demolished.	Number of Ex R.A.F. Huts demolished.	Number of persons displaced. (Approx).
1955	2	6	36
1956	4	14	61
1957	3	36	137
1958	4	14	56
1959	2	-	7
1960	9	-	20
	24	70	317

Standard Grants for Certain Improvements of Dwellings.

Under the new House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, owners of old houses are now able to obtain grants of up to £150 towards improvements, i.e. the provision of a bath, wash-basin, hot water supply, water closet and food store. During the year ten applications were made and approved, and the work completed.

Rent Act, 1957.

Two applications for Certificates of Disrepair were made, but none were issued. In both cases undertakings were given by the owners that the necessary repairs would be carried out.

Investigation and Prevention of Atmospheric Pollution.

The extent of atmospheric pollution by deposited matter is determined generally by exposing the standard gauge and examining at monthly intervals the matter collected in the gauge bowl. Month to month fluctuations in deposited matter, however, are often the result of variations in weather and a long period of observation is needed before reliable conclusions can be drawn about the average level of pollution.

The finer particles, commonly referred to as smoke, which are less than .002 cm. in size, settle slowly, if at all, and little of this is collected in the deposit gauge. It serves, therefore, as an indication of localised grit and dust fall. Whilst this may be an average deposit for the whole area, to obtain a more accurate reading several deposit gauges would be required at different parts of the district. Since some medical authorities consider that grit and dust are not particularly harmful to health the value of this information would not be commensurate with the expense of providing and maintaining more deposit gauges.

In the statistics provided below most of the water-soluble matter is probably derived from salt spray. The more important figures for insoluble deposit compare very favourably with those of adjoining districts. Most of the smoke produced is from the domestic fire, as there are only three small factory chimneys in the district.

Twenty-three observations were made on smoke emission but no contraventions of the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations were noted.

Month.	Rainfall, inches.	pH Value.	Water - insoluble matter. Tons per sq. mile.	Water - soluble matter. Tons per sq. mile.	Total solids. Tons per sq. mile.
January	4.77	4.0	3.58	8.64	12.22
February	1.89	4.1	4.54	6.32	10.86
March	1.54	4.3	4.63	4.80	9.43
April	1.14	5.2	9.17	7.58	16.75
May	1.85	4.1	11.06	4.44	15.50
June	0.79	5.2	6.76	3.34	10.10
July	3.55	4.3	7.85	10.30	18.15
August	3.03	4.5	4.44	5.46	9.90
September	2.84	4.2	3.51	4.04	7.55
October	2.95	3.9	3.77	6.16	9.93
November	5.63	4.2	4.93	18.25	23.18
December	3.39	4.1	2.25	11.86	14.11

Schools.

A list of the main schools in the district is given below :-

<u>School.</u>	<u>Type.</u>	<u>Approx. No. of children attending.</u>
Formby County Primary	Primary	63
Formby Modern Secondary	Modern Secondary	230
St. Luke's C. of E.	Primary and Junior	248
St. Peter's C. of E.	Primary and Junior	195
Holy Trinity C. of E.	Primary and Junior	142
Our Lady's R.C.	All ages	335
Holmwood	Private	157 (93 of these are boarders).
Netherby Preparatory	Private	15
Bishop's Court R.C.	Private	107 (63 of these are boarders).
St. Peter's College R.C.	Private	95 (All boarders).
St. Mary's Convent R.C.	Private	97
Phoenix House	Private	48

In addition, there are a few small Private Nursery schools and two Home Office Approved schools.

Routine inspection was made of the sanitary accommodation and also the school kitchens and dining rooms. All minor defects discovered were remedied.

Inspection and Supervision of Food and Milk Supplies.

All milk sold by retail within the district is tuberculin tested, pasteurised or sterilised and can, therefore, be regarded as "safe."

There are nine dairy farms producing milk, but the milk from five of these farms is sold in bulk for heat treatment by pasteurising plant situated outside the district. Ten other retailers are licenced for the sale of designated milks.

Milk Sampling.

The following details are given of samples taken from retailers, food kitchens and schools in the district, which were submitted for bacteriological examination.

No. of Samples	Grade of Milk.	Test.	Satisfac-tory.	Unsatis-factory.
4	T.T. (Untreated)	T.B. Animal Inoculation	4	-
3	T.T. Pasteurised	-do-	3	-
4	T.T. (Untreated)	Methylene Blue	4	-
12	Pasteurised	-do-	12	-
12	Pasteurised	Phosphatase	12	-
1	Dried Milk	B. Coli and colony count	1	-

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949/54.

The following licences were issued for the sale of designated milk :-

<u>Type of Milk.</u>	<u>Number of Licences.</u>	
	<u>Dealers.</u>	<u>Supplementary.</u>
Tuberculin Tested	3	3
Pasteurised	14	1
Sterilised	4	1

Food Premises.

Premises where food is prepared, stored or sold, were inspected during the year and one hundred and fifty-eight visits made.

Conditions, generally, were found to be satisfactory, although adequate protection for open displayed foods in shops is not yet complete. A few general shops appear to be dealing in such an extensive variety of products, which they attempt to display, that it results in congested premises and

inadequate and unsatisfactory food storage.

Better arrangements are being made by the Brewers for washing glasses in the bar tents at open air shows. Mobile stainless steel sink units are used and hot water is provided by calor gas heaters. Attention was also given to catering arrangements at school kitchens, works canteens and cafes. Food delivery vans and hawkers vehicles were also inspected.

Bakehouses.

Routine visits were made to the six bakehouses within the district, and structural improvements were made at two premises.

Informal notices were served in respect of one bakehouse, requiring the cleansing and painting of the walls and ceilings.

Although efforts are made to encourage bakers to modernise their premises, probably more important in this trade, and indeed in all food trades, is the sense of responsibility which the individual worker must have in scrupulous and conscientious attention to hygiene. Without this all efforts at improvement can be largely nullified.

Ice Cream.

An increasing number of food shops are selling ice cream and thirty-nine premises are now registered. This is mostly wrapped or prepacked and produced by large manufacturers outside the area. The only ice cream made in the district is produced from a "complete cold mix" which requires no addition except water.

Eighteen samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for examination. The following results were reported :-

No. of Samples.	Methylene Blue Test - Period of Reduction.	Grade.
12	Not before 4 hours.	1
6	3 to 4 hours.	2
-	1 hour.	3
-	-	4

The standard adopted is that recommended by the Ministry of Health, i.e. "ice cream which consistently fails to reach grades one and two indicates defects of manufacture or handling." On these standards all samples were found to be satisfactory.

Licensed Premises.

There are six licensed hotels in the district and routine inspection was made of the sanitary arrangements, kitchens and beer cellars. Pipes and fittings were also examined.

Extensive alterations are in progress at several of these houses where additional sanitary accommodation, washing facilities and other improvements are being made.

Cinemas.

There is now only one cinema operating in the district. Routine inspection was made of the premises and sanitary arrangements.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

This Act provides for the licensing of premises where animals are sold as pets, and has regard to the accommodation, feeding and cleanliness of these animals. Although there are shops dealing exclusively in pet foods no licences were issued for the business of selling animals.

Slaughterhouses.

There are no public or private slaughterhouses in the district. The Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, inter alia, required all local authorities to review the existing and probable future requirements for slaughterhouse facilities, and to submit a report to the Ministry not later than 2nd November, 1960. All retail butchers were consulted and it was ascertained that the existing arrangements at the Liverpool Stanley Abattoir and at the Southport Abattoir were entirely satisfactory and that there was no demand for a slaughterhouse in this district.

Hawkers of Food.

A systematic inspection of hawkers' vehicles and food delivery vans was made during the year. In a few instances the inside condition of the vehicle was unsatisfactory, but in all cases this was remedied by informal action.

There are eight hawkers trading in the district who have been registered under the Lancashire County Council

(General Powers) Act, 1951.

An Order made in 1936 under the Town Police Clauses Act, 1847, prohibits hawking in most of the main streets from June to September on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Rodent Control.

The work of rat and mice destruction has continued during the year. One operative is employed and a large proportion of his time is spent on this work. Free treatment is given for rodent extermination at private dwellings and a charge is made for the actual cost of treatment at business premises. All complaints of infestation are investigated and also a routine search of the district is carried out. A total of 1,597 visits were made for the purpose. No treatment for rat infestation of sewers was undertaken during the year. Previous annual tests have always been negative and it was, therefore, suggested by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food that no further test baiting should take place until 1961.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE.		
Premises visited.	No. of treatments completed.	No. of Visits made.
Dwelling houses	121	821
Business premises	14	259
Agricultural premises	6	190
Ditches and watercourses	10	145
Tips and Sewage Works	6	182

It was not found necessary to use any of the quick acting poisons (i.e. zinc phosphide or arsenious oxide, etc.) for rodent control. All treatment has been done by using medium oatmeal as a bait base with the anti-coagulant warfarin.

This acts mainly by preventing the blood from clotting and so rats and mice tend to die of internal and external bleeding.

Frequent complaints are received of damage to gardens by rabbits. Although rabbits are rodents, they do not come within the provisions of the Act. Complaints of this nature are referred to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, whose officers readily give assistance and advice.

Insect Destruction.

There have been only a few houses where the department has been called upon to disinfest the premises for bug or flea infestation. These are usually effectively dealt with by the use of D.D.T. liquid spray.

Cockroaches are more difficult to eradicate; powders, sprays, insecticidal lacquers and smokes have been used with varying degrees of success. Complaints were received during early summer of swarms of tiny flies infesting the living rooms of certain houses. The spraying of D.D.T. proved effective in eliminating this nuisance. The insects were later identified as belonging to the "Phoridae" family and traced to a load of straw used in some nearby mushroom sheds.

Occasionally, as a last resort, the services of the department are called upon to remove wasps nests. These are generally awkwardly located in the roof space and firmly attached to the joists near the eaves. Three of these large nests were removed during the year and five others were destroyed in garden banks.

A swarm of bees located between the ceiling and upper floor in the toilet of a local hotel also had to be destroyed.

Adulteration of Food.

Fifty-five samples of food and drugs were obtained and submitted for analysis by the Lancashire County Council. Details of these are given below :-

<u>Food.</u>	<u>No. of Samples.</u>
Preserving Sugar	1
Cheese	1
Demerara Sugar	1
Caster Sugar	1
Icing Sugar	1
Sugar	3
Meat Pie	1
Flour Confectionery	1
Canned Fish	1
Canned Sausages	1
Milk	41

The samples were sent for analysis to the County Analyst and all were reported by him to be genuine.

The Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957.

The administration of this Order was delegated by the Lancashire County Council and its object is to prevent the spread of foot and mouth disease, swine fever, foul pest and other diseases. The Order prohibits the feeding of unboiled waste foods to certain animals and poultry. All substantial collectors of waste foods for animal and poultry feeding must obtain a licence. This imposes on them the obligation to use an approved boiling plant, which is inspected periodically. All waste food collected must be boiled for at least one hour.

At present there are seven premises at which licenced plant can be operated. Many pig-breeders have discontinued the use of waste foods having found other foodstuffs more suitable, cleaner and easier to handle. Fifteen visits of inspection were made to premises and in two cases minor contraventions were noted and remedied.

Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956.

It is the duty of the local authority under this Act to ensure the provision of adequate sanitary conveniences on agricultural holdings, and also to see that these are kept clean. In some cases during the summer months the normal complement of workers is increased by the employment of casual labour and temporary arrangements have often to be made.

Sixteen agricultural units were inspected, and in one case an informal notice was served to provide accommodation for seasonal workers.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	No. on Regis- ter. (2)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions. (3)	Written Notices. (4)	Occup- iers prosecu- ted. (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities.	7	10	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority.	39	52	2	-
(iii) Other Premises in which section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	14	30	1	-
Total	60	92	4	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	By H.M. Inspector. (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1):	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2):					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3):					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4):					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6):					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient:					
(b) Unsuitable or defective:	5	5	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes:					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work);					
Total:	6	6	-	1	-

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS, 1960.

Complaints received and investigated	193
Visits to dwellings under Public Health Acts	741
Visits to dwellings under Housing Acts	183
Revisits to premises	481
Visits to factories and workplaces	92
Visits to public houses	10
Visits to food premises	98
Visits to bakehouses	50
Visits to farms, piggeries, etc.	69
Visits re drain tests	192
Visits re wells and water supply	27
Visits to schools	11
Visits to caravan sites	26
Visits to shops	175
Visits re Rent Act	7
Visits re infectious disease	31
Visits to ditches and watercourses	16
Visits and observations re Clean Air Act, 1956	23
Visits re milk supplies	46
Visits re ice cream	33
Visits re food hawkers	22
Miscellaneous visits and interviews	114
Number of preliminary notices served	71
Number of preliminary notices complied with	65
Number of Statutory notices served	3
Number of Statutory notices complied with	3

